

September 16, 1949.

Miss E. M. Nester,
Secretary,
Jane Coffin Childs Fund,
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Miss Nester:

I have your letter of the 13th asking for an information to the Board of Scientific Advisers on my present status as a former Fellow of the Childs Fund.

For the past two years I have been holding the position of Assistant Professor of Genetics at the University of Wisconsin. The appointment involved the establishment of a laboratory for research in microbial genetics, which took about a year. At the present time, various students and myself are pursuing several aspects of bacterial genetics, including 1) the sexual cycle of Escherichia coli, 2) the isolation of biochemical mutants in other bacteria, with a view to testing them for sexuality, 3) the genetic control of the stability of genes in E. coli, 4) genetic aspects of lysogenic bacterial viruses, viewed as "transforming principles", and 5) the relationships between gene mutations at various loci and enzyme (galactosidase) synthesis in E. coli.

The following publications have appeared:

Lederberg, J. & Zinder, N. (1948). Concentration of biochemical mutants of bacteria with penicillin. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 70: 4267-68.

Lederberg, J. (1949). Aberrant heterozygotes in Escherichia coli. Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. 35: 178-84.

Doudoroff, M., Hassid, W. Z., Putnam, F. W., Potter, A. L. & Lederberg, J. (1949). Direct utilization of maltose by Escherichia coli. Jour. Biol. Chem. 179: 921-934.

I will be very glad to put the Fund on my mailing list if that would be desirable.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg.